

Malibu Bluffs OFG Ribbon Cutting 3-20-13 Surfrider Part – Talking Points

Surfrider got its start just down the beach from here.

- Bluff Parks is part of the same watershed, or basin, as the beach: Bluffs Park is the high point, draining to the low point - the beach and ocean.

The Problem

- In a natural watershed, rainwater and any water that washes down canyons and hills is either absorbed by plants and soil or at least filtered before it meets a creek and ocean.
- Urban development has covered much of the natural area with hard surfaces like concrete and asphalt - materials that are often connected and directed to streets, rain drains and the ocean. When it rains, and even during dry days, water runoff picks up pollutants, flushing it to the ocean.
- Those pollutants include exhaust, oil and brake-pad dust from cars, fertilizers and pesticides, dog poo, and more.

The Solution

- This garden applies CPR – Conservation, Permeability and Retention – to revive our watersheds, creeks and oceans.
 - Conservation – native plants are adapted to local rainfall, no use of chemicals, and use of drip irrigation and high-efficiency sprinklers.
 - Permeability – building healthy soil and breaking up of hard surfaces, creating a sponge-like effect to support soil biology.
 - Retention – sloping the site toward areas like dry streambeds absorbs rainwater and any overshoot of sprinkler, preventing runoff.

Legacy Park, down the street, is helping – it cleanses runoff from a large area.

Bluffs OFG - A Model To Learn From

- Come here to see how the design can be done at your home or work, and watch the garden fill in and go through its cycles. Do it yourself or hire a professional.
- We hope to partner with the City, County and West Basin to hold more classes here, using the garden as a learning tool.

Volunteer With Surfrider

- Learn by helping others go OFG.
 - Educate others at events, schools and elsewhere.
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